(b) if so, by when the construction work would be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work had been awarded on 31-5-2006 and is likely to commence in March, 2007.

Conversion of single lane highways into two lane

2205. MS. MABEL REBELLO : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways that are single, of 3 metres carriageway in Central India in the States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) please give the details of National Highways, which are single lane carriageway of 3 metres, please give the number of the highways and the length of the highways;

(c) by when all these National Highways would be converted into two lane of 7 metres width;

(d) whether it is aware that large number of accidents particularly in rainy season happen because of narrow National Highways; and

(e) whether it has ever been assessed the total loss of life and property such as bus, truck and such other vehicular losses that occured in the last five years in these States in terms of money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) There are 24 number of National Highways in Central India in the States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh having single lane carriageway of 3 metres width in different stretches aggregating to a length of about 1250 Kms. Details are annexed as Statement (*See* below).

(c) Widening to 7 metres width in an aggregate length of 205 Kms. in different stretches has already been sanctioned and works are at different stages of progress. Widening of remaining stretches to 7 metres width will be carried out in a phased manner depending upon availability of funds and *inter-se* priority of works.

(d) Narrow width of National Highways is one of the reasons for accidents.

(e) No, Sir.

Statement

Details of National Highways having single lane

Sl. No.	State	No. of NHs which have single lane stretches	NH No.	Length of single lane (km.)
1.	Jharkhand	4	23	72.00
			80	63.00
			99	20.00
			100	42.50
		SUB-TOTAL		**197.50**
2.	Chhattisgarh	10	16	183.00
			43	3.00
			78	168.00
			111	4.00
			200	13.30
			202	36.00
			216	12.60
			217	10.00
			221	155.60
			12A	1.00
		SUB-TOTAL		**586.50**
3.	Madhya Pradesh	10	7	0.58
			12	26.80

1.	2	3	4	5
			26	37.88
			27	0.80
			69	1.70
			75	77.00
			76	3.00
			78	76.00
			86	49.80
			59A	192.00
		SUB-TOTAL		**465.56**
		TOTAL: (1+2+3)		1249.56

Repair of National Higways in Uttaranchal

2206. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of National Highways in Uttaranchal are in need of extensive repairs;

(b) if so, the details thereof, highway-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to adopt a new technology in order to upgrade and maintain some highways;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether a new technology is economical; and

(f) if so, the savings to be effected in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Presently National Highways in Uttaranchal require only routine maintenance and not extensive repairs and are being kept in traffic worthy condition.

(c) and (d) New technology which includes modern technical